

A portrait of Mark Ridley-Thomas, a Black man with short dark hair and glasses, wearing a blue suit and a dark tie. He is resting his chin on his hand, looking thoughtfully to the left. The background is a blurred office setting with bookshelves.

THE LEGACY OF MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

SUPERVISOR | SECOND DISTRICT
2008-2020



Mark Ridley-Thomas gets the job done. As a co-chair of my statewide Task force on homelessness, he led with moral clarity and embodied the spirit of civic duty. He isn't afraid to roll up his sleeves and push government to do all that it can do. He has served Angelenos well on the Board of Supervisors. I know there is more to come and I look forward to continuing our partnership. Thank you, friend, for your years of service on the Board.

—GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM
State of California



I join in honoring and celebrating a dear friend and extraordinary public servant, Mark Ridley-Thomas. Mark has led at all levels of government and done so with remarkable skill, integrity, and creativity. Today, because Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas never wavered or retreated, the County of Los Angeles is more just, more equitable, and more responsive to its people. Thank you Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas for your inextinguishable passion in pursuit of your honorable vision.

—ATTORNEY GENERAL
XAVIER BECERRA
State of California

EMPOWERMENT CONGRESS ENDING HOMELESSNESS CREATIVE ECONOMY LA CARE METRO



TABLE OF CONTENTS

4

A MESSAGE FROM
SUPERVISOR MARK
RIDLEY-THOMAS

6

ARTS AND CULTURE

18

TRANSFORMING
COMMUNITIES

36

ECONOMIC AND
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT

44

EDUCATION AND YOUTH
DEVELOPMENT

52

EQUITY

58

HEALTHCARE

68

HOMELESSNESS

76

JUSTICE REFORM

82

COVID-19 RESPONSE

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

A MESSAGE FROM SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

As I reach the end of my time as Los Angeles County Supervisor for the Second Supervisorial District, I do so with tremendous gratitude and thanksgiving. Although it was more than 12 years ago that I took my oath to serve as Supervisor, it still seems like yesterday when I first walked into that Board room and had the immeasurable honor of being sworn in as your County Supervisor. As I leave here, my belief stands that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors will—and must—be a force for good that leads the way in our region and continues to make stronger our mosaic of a more equitable and inclusive environment.

Together, we have shown that we can transform communities if we maintain a deep and abiding fidelity to the ideals of justice, equity and progress for all. I leave here with great pride in what we have accomplished. From the passage of Measure H and housing more than 22,000 people in one year to investing more than \$1 billion dollars in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Campus and the opening of the Crenshaw/Expo Metro line, the work of determined collective action, is still the most powerful tool we have to create a better future, to forge lasting change, and push us towards a brighter day.

While it may be difficult to fully appreciate the magnitude of our total contributions—as the moment is still being written—I remain more confident than ever that our work has made a lasting difference in the lives of so many and remains urgent and important. Ours is work that we are blessed to own for the day, and then to pass on to others. I have no doubt that hope will endure, and that progress will continue because the cause of justice is greater than any one of us. But, whatever the next chapter holds, my hope is as a result of our pursuits, the Second District is a more vibrant and brighter place for those who call it home. And the road that is set out for those newly embarking on their journey to a better life is paved more accessible and affirms the dignity of all people, regardless of color or creed, gender or ethnicity.

It has been the honor and privilege of a lifetime to serve the County of Los Angeles and to work for you as your Supervisor. This experience will remain with me in whatever I do and wherever I go. Thank you for joining me on this incredible and humbling journey.

With hope,



MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT



ARTS AND CULTURE





A MOSAIC OF A MORE EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

In Los Angeles County, arts and culture have built bridges and enriched lives. From the West Adams home of Hattie McDaniel that hosted the greats—Duke Ellington, Lena Horne, Count Basie—to the New Temple Missionary Baptist Church, the site of Aretha Franklin’s live recording of the axis-shifting *Amazing Grace*, nothing more embodies the complexity of the human experience and its potential to transform hardship and sorrow into the fullness of vitality and hope than arts and culture. What the arts fundamentally does is that it provides a view from the bottom as well as the top, the good and the bad, and the possibility of synthesis, reconciliation, and transcendence.

Within the Second District are many cultural and arts opportunities: delight in the sights and sounds of the Pacific Islands in Carson; explore the 51-year-old St. Elmo Village in the Mid-City area; browse the Arts District in



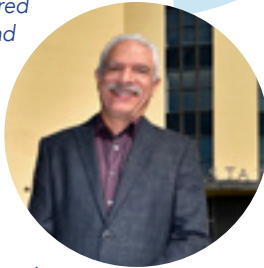
Culver City; learn about the African American experience as interpreted by the Ebony Repertory Theatre at the Nate Holden Performing Arts Center; become immersed at the hub of African American culture in Leimert Park; and enjoy the brightly colored hanbok and gracefulness of the Korean dancers in the Koreatown community.

However, just as potential requires promise, opportunity necessitates access. During the Great Recession, Los Angeles County departments operated on lean budgets and funding was allocated to only what was deemed essential. Arts education and engagement programs at schools and in communities were the first casualties of the budget cuts. Stunted by the same systemic inequity that reflected across our nation's broader struggle on the questions of race, value, and whose stories and artistry were uplifted, opportunity did not match the same multiculturalism that has made the tapestry of this region so strong and so great.

Fortunately, the line of progress in history has never been straight and today in the Second District, opportunity not only lives, it thrives.

The Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company's Art collection brings together some of the finest works of art by African American artists. It is a symbol of the achievements and contributions of persons of African descent. The founders of Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company commissioned African American artists to create murals depicting the contributions of African Americans to the establishment and growth of the State of California. They later hired an artist, William Pajaud, to help lead their marketing efforts and build, over a 30-year period, an excellent collection of African American art, much of it created by Los Angeles-based artists.

ERIC HANKS
Director and Owner of M. Hanks Gallery
Art appraiser specializing in African American Art



As a result of work that started in 2009, catalyzed by the election of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, individual artistic and community potential have grown to more closely resemble the mosaic of rich traditions of Los Angeles County. In accounting for cultural institutions alone, from the reawakening of the California African American Museum, to the forthcoming \$1 billion Lucas Museum of Narrative Arts, the burgeoning Underground Museum, and the revisioning of both the Natural History Museum as well as the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, institutions in the Second District have thrived.

For the first time in the history of Los Angeles County's public administration, there is a Department of Arts and Culture, established via a motion introduced by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas. The Department of Arts and Culture provides grants for hundreds of nonprofit organizations, commissions art for public facilities, and manages the County's civic art collection. One of the greatest collections of African American art, the Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company's Art Collection, is now part of Los Angeles County's permanent civic art collection. Over 120 works of art by well-known African-American artists such as Richmond Barthé, Elizabeth Catlett, Varnette P. Honeywood, William Pajaud, Charles White, Paul R. Williams, Hale Woodruff, and others are on exhibit in public





buildings throughout the County, only after being rescued by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas from being sold piecemeal at a bankruptcy auction.

The Arts and Culture Department has expanded its funding for hundreds of nonprofit organizations throughout Los Angeles County. Approximately 370 arts organizations and social service providers serving the Second District have been awarded grants through the Organizational Grants and Community Impact Arts Grants programs, bringing services to the community in the fields of therapy, education, criminal justice, performing and literary arts, just to name a few.

But of all the arts and culture achievements on which Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has led, inspired, or cultivated, of all the ways in which progress has evolved since he was sworn into office, the triumph that says so much about his leadership in this area is his commitment to the talent and workforce of tomorrow. As a result of the County-sponsored Arts Internship Program (AIP), a program he saved from being eliminated in 2010, 1,551 youth have participated in the AIP since his election in 2008. The deliberate inclusion, as directed by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, of community college students into the program has led to the increasing diversity of participating interns; the 2019 Intern Cohort reflects a diversity of 69% mixed, Black/African American, Asian/Pacific Island and Hispanic or Latino, and 30% white ethnicities as self-identified by the interns.

Many young people are now working on their own careers and finding inspiration in the work of others. Thousands of young people now have their first and most important exposure to music, dance, drama, production and design, digital media, business and management, marketing, and much more. And for those who are yet to come, they too will know that without a doubt in the Second Supervisorial District of Los Angeles County, now, more than ever, the Arts matter.

The LA County Arts Internship Program inspired me to use education as a tool for creative workforce equity and social change. My experiences in the LA County Arts Internship Program motivated me to expand access to opportunities for arts and culture leaders of color and expose early career professionals to opportunities throughout the creative economy in Los Angeles. I was able to gain facilitation and program building skills specifically focused on professional development in the arts, which I still use today as I aim to inspire others who are turning their creative passions into creative careers.

ELENA MUSLAR





The Department of Arts and Culture provides grants for hundreds of nonprofit organizations, commissions art for public facilities, and manages the County's civic art collection.

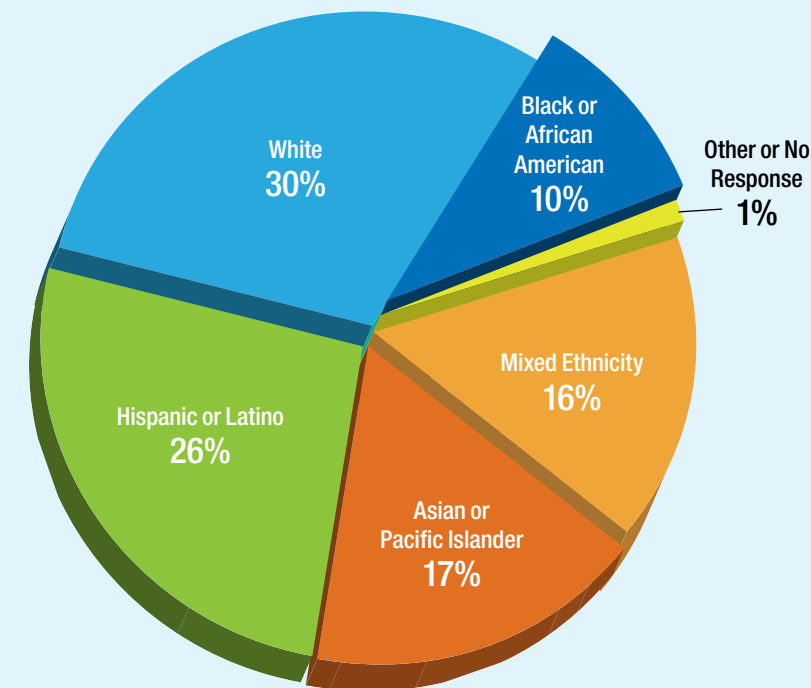
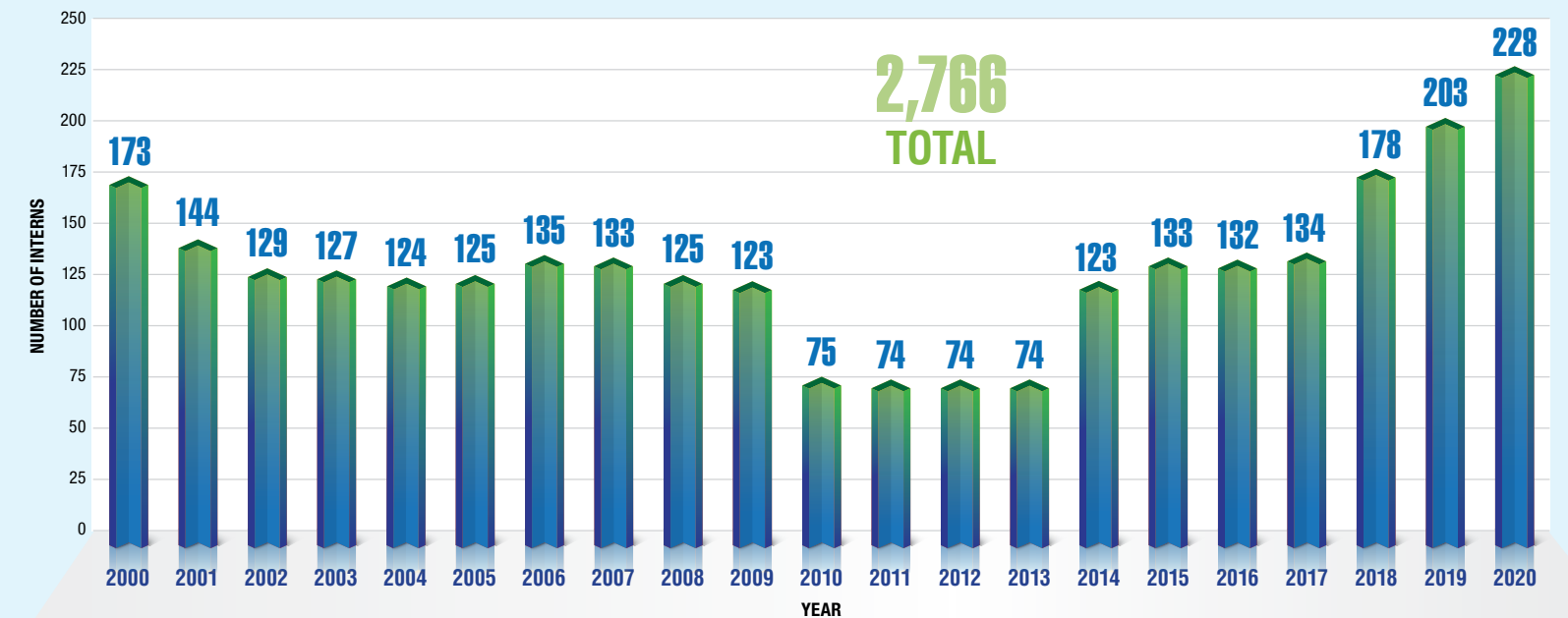




2020 ARTS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

2020 Arts Internship Program: On October 7, the Arts Internship program celebrated its 20th Anniversary with a first ever Virtual Arts Summit. In response to COVID-19, 2020 internships will run from August 2020 to March 2021 with 160 intern positions launched. To date, more than 2,500 students have participated in the program gaining over 1 million hours of paid work experience across hundreds of arts organizations hosts, representing a milestone in creative career pathways for our diverse college youth.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARTS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM: HISTORICAL NUMBER OF INTERNS



INTERN COHORTS 2019



2008-2020

Sponsored production of professional plays and films, hosting more than 15,000 audience members,

including youth and seniors, with themes and topics ranging from justice reform (Just Mercy), civil rights leaders (Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall), biographies (Susan Ahn Cuddy, Rodney King), discrimination (A Raisin in the Sun, Dr. DuBois and Mrs. Ovington), strengthening community relations (Through the Looking Glass) and bilingual Spanish theatre productions (Aladdin, Beauty and the Beast) for youth.

TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES





IMPROVING THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has demonstrated that improvements to the built environment can catalyze tremendous economic and social change within historically underserved communities.

There has been no better example of these efforts to transform communities than within Willowbrook. When Supervisor Ridley-Thomas took office in 2008, the community was mourning the recent loss of accreditation of the MLK Hospital, the only large medical facility in the area. Opened in 2015 after more than 7 years of continuous efforts, the new MLK Community Hospital is the crown jewel of the MLK Medical Campus that is home to a state-of-the-art outpatient center, a privately-operated medical office building, a child care center, a psychiatric urgent care center, a recuperative care center, and the State’s first integrated Behavioral Health Center, peer counseling and workforce training programs.

Beyond the campus, hundreds of units of affordable housing have been built, parks have been transformed, community gardens have been constructed and transportation improvements have been installed. All in all, the investments in the Willowbrook community exceed well over \$1 billion.



Transformation has not just stopped at the borders of Willowbrook. It has resounded across communities in all corners of the Second District:

REVITALIZING VERMONT/MANCHESTER:

The 4.2 acre property on the corner of Vermont and Manchester, which had been vacant and blighted since the 1992 Civil Unrest, will be the site of the State's first public charter boarding school, the SEED School of Los Angeles County. SEED LA represents a unique partnership with Los Angeles County and Metro to prepare resilient youth not only for college, but for careers within the transportation and infrastructure sectors. To the south, a mixed-use development will be constructed that will include 180 units of affordable housing and 60,000 square feet of community-serving retail. The development will include a Metro Training and Innovation Center and community plaza.

CONSTRUCTING THE CRENSHAW LINE:

The Crenshaw/LAX Line was first conceived as a bus line, slated for construction in 2029. However, in 2011, shortly after joining the Metro Board, Los Angeles County Supervisor Ridley-Thomas successfully urged

his colleagues to convert the long-awaited transportation investment in South Los Angeles into a rail project and expedite its construction. Those initial plans for the line, however, did not include a stop in Leimert Park, long-considered the heart of Black Los Angeles and a center of African American art, music, and culture. Working with civic leaders, neighborhood activists, merchants and clergy, the Supervisor persuaded his colleagues on the Metro Board to approve funding for this stop in May 2013. The Crenshaw/LAX Line represents many firsts for Metro. At the Supervisor's urging, it was the first project to include a Project Labor Agreement to ensure that local workers had an opportunity for employment. It was also the first to coordinate with a Community Leadership Council to ensure the community was meaningfully engaged in all aspects of



2008-2020

Spearheaded the development of over **3,900 units** of affordable housing, with **1,728** dedicated homeless units. This included the revitalization of all County-owned vacant parcels into affordable housing.



the project. The Crenshaw/LAX Line was also the first to offer a Business Interruption Fund and Business Solution Center, to ensure that the small businesses located along the line were not adversely impacted during construction.

IMPROVING RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNITY-SERVING USES IN CARSON:

Recognizing that the County-operated golf course in Carson was not meeting the highest and best use for the property, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas facilitated an unprecedented partnership to create the Carol Kimmelman Academic and Athletic Campus, a partnership with the Kimmelman Foundation, Tiger Wood's TGR Foundation and U.S. Tennis Association to build more than 50 tennis courts and a youth-based center for after-school and STEM-based enrichment programming. To the south side of the property, a unique recreational and retail experience is envisioned, with indoor gyms and community centers, golf amenities, and a variety of other community-serving uses.

This ordinance has transformed some of our community gathering places from despair into places of hope and help.

PASTOR ANTHONY WILLIAMS
88th Street Temple Church of God
In Christ



ADDRESSING BLIGHT AND RE-DEVELOPING COUNTY PROPERTY IN KOREATOWN:

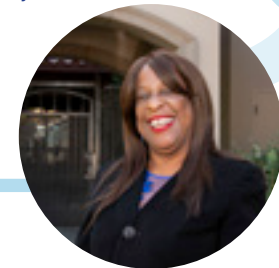
The 6th & Vermont Project was designed to address the blighting influence of the County facilities on Vermont Avenue that house the Department of Mental Health (DMH), Workforce Development, Aging & Community Services (WDACS), and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). The Project involves the redevelopment of three County-owned sites into a 21-story office tower for DMH and WDACS. The new building will include mental health services on the ground floor of the tower which is on track for completion in the summer of 2021; 172 units of market rate housing with ground level retail; and 72 units of affordable senior housing with a community center located on the ground level operated by the Anderson Munger Family YMCA of Greater Los Angeles. The Project is expected to generate substantial economic benefit to the area by eliminating blight, creating construction jobs for local residents, and providing growth and expansion opportunities for local and small businesses.





Gateway at Willowbrook is centrally located. This affordable luxury apartment offers me the opportunity to live independently within a social environment with shopping facilities across the street and the MLK Hospital one block away. Additionally, easy access to groceries and medical availability provides me with a peace of mind.

SHARLAN OWENS
Retired Preschool Teacher





From public buildings and transportation resources to parks, libraries, and community centers, allocating more than \$3.7 billion in capital improvements across the Second District, he has set a Countywide standard to proactively fund ongoing maintenance of public facilities.



Community development is rooted in the belief that all individuals regardless of their station in life should have access to health, wellbeing, justice and opportunity. However, fostering the conditions that create the circumstances where these attributes can flourish requires not just a desire to do so, but physically changing the built environment so that it is neither blighted nor inadequately maintained.

The Second District encompasses some of the most dense, urban parts of Los Angeles County – and the public infrastructure is broadly considered to be among the oldest in the County. After years of deferred maintenance on County facilities that left many community assets in a state of decline when Supervisor Ridley-Thomas assumed office, one of his first priorities was to reverse this trend. Over the past twelve years, he has worked systematically invest and re-envision a world where these same assets are achieving their highest and best uses. From public buildings and transportation resources to parks, libraries, and community centers, allocating more than \$3.7 billion in capital improvements across the Second District, he has set a Countywide standard to proactively fund ongoing maintenance of public facilities.

In the unincorporated areas where the County has direct land use authority, strategic efforts were made to build town centers that not only included the renovation of parks, community centers, gardens and libraries, but also ensured that there were walkable streets, often with shaded trees, bike lanes and public transit in the form of “Link Shuttles” that transported residents to community destinations for 25 cents a ride. These efforts also included the implementation of civic art and community-building activities, including artistically-designed and professionally-bound books that celebrate the people and history of each unincorporated community, as well as murals and street banners that hung along major corridors like Florence Avenue in Florence-Firestone, Wilmington Avenue in Willowbrook and Slauson Avenue in View Parks/Windsor Hills.



2016 - 2020 Rehabilitation and Expansion of Metro Facilities across the Second District

Led efforts to ensure that Metro's facilities in South Los Angeles and SD2 at large were improved and enhanced after decades of deferred maintenance, including:



Construction on the
\$130 million
Willowbrook/Rosa Parks
Station Renovation Project
which included a new
plaza, a Metro bike hub
and a customer service and
security center, in addition
to improved connections to
the bus and rail lines.



Design of the
\$140 million
Rail to River Active
Transportation Corridor Project,
which will connect the Crenshaw/
LAX Line to the Silver and Blue
Lines, and create a 6.6 mile bike
and walking path. The Project
is expected to go out for bid for
construction in early 2021.



Championed
reinvestment in the Blue
Line, resulting in a
\$600 million
renovation.



Many communities, particularly in the unincorporated areas, had significant environmental constraints that could adversely impact residents if not properly regulated. Since 2008, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has been committed to ensuring better protections for the thousands of residents that live around the Inglewood Oil Field. To this end, in Florence-Firestone, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas established a Taskforce that was specifically focused on ensuring that the industrial uses along the Alameda Corridor were operating in compliance with all regulations, and he advocated for the establishment of a new zoning ordinance that would create a pathway for revoking liquor licenses for businesses with histories of violations – a policy that was used for the first time to close a historically non-compliant nuisance liquor store in the Vermont/Manchester community.

Expecting that each community under his jurisdiction has the right to expect first-class amenities and strong enforcement of sensitive environmental concerns, the last 12 years have shown that this expectation has not only been surpassed, but accomplished in a manner that is thoughtful, strategic and equitable.

When I was a student, I was able to use my bus pass to travel with an ease of mind and not worry about heavy L.A. traffic and the ability to catch up on homework. I have been an advocate of student passes since my tenure in student government in 2014. In a time when money is budgeted with more precaution, we must aide those in need to help them achieve their goals.

ALEXA DARLENE VICTORIANO
Student/Bank Specialist/Medical Receptionist





The 13-mile Park to Playa Bridge and Trail connect the Baldwin Hills Parklands to the Pacific Ocean via the Stocker Corridor, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Stoneview Nature Center, the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, and Ballona Creek Bike Path. This represents the first regional trail in Los Angeles County's Second Supervisorial District.

Today we take stock of what we have accomplished. This bridge and trail have more than just a practical use—they have a symbolic one. The Park to Playa Trail connects us, not just to nature, but to each other.

--MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Supervisor, Los Angeles County Second District

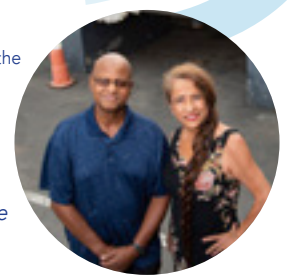


I have lived in the unincorporated community of Willowbrook since 1986, and as a former Director, I can truly say that I have never seen such improvements being done to the Sativa water system in such a short period of time. I am impressed and satisfied with the quality of water that's currently being provided in the district, and for their prompt services to the community.

ELIZABETH HICKS
Retired Banker, and former Board member of the Sativa LA County Water District

Sativa Water District now has clean and safe water. I, my neighbors and the greater Sativa Water customer base are satisfied with clean water to drink, shower, wash, and cook with.

TONY HICKS
Retired Educator, and Former Water District Official



ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT





The Bio-Flex program opened my eyes and mind. I now have a better sense of what exists and now I'm using skills that I learned from the program at my current fellowship in the Advanced Prototyping Center with the Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator. Bio-Flex has shown me how important it is to have a knowledgeable workforce prepared to meet demand.

ALDAHIR PEREIRA
Fellow, Advanced Prototyping Center
Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator



If Los Angeles County were a nation, it would be the 19th largest economy in the world with a gross domestic product in excess of \$700 billion. This wealth, however, is not shared equitably by all communities. Nearly one in four households in the Second District live at or below the federal poverty line. More than one in three persons experiencing homelessness in the County resides in the Second District. And the wage gap between minority workers and the average regional wage stands at a nearly 25 percent difference. The generational effects of poverty on child and family wellbeing, required a bold economic and workforce development agenda that was as inspired as it was innovative.

Under Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' leadership, the Second District has benefitted from transformative development projects that provide affordable housing and living wage employment to the District's most vulnerable communities. Using a strategy that puts to use underutilized County

property located adjacent to major transit lines and on the County's medical campuses, areas that once lacked economic vitality, today find themselves reshaped as centers of a commercial renaissance that features community-owned cafes, coffee shops and business spaces - especially among a new generation of entrepreneurs.

Seizing on the role entrepreneurship can play in harnessing the economic strength of a community to create jobs and develop a voice to advocate for their own wellbeing, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas led in the adoption of new County programs and policies designed to expand business and career opportunities for disadvantaged communities. From the Small Business Assistance Program, a Local and Targeted Worker Hire requirement on County construction projects, to introducing several career pathway programs that prepare participants with the highest barriers to employment for living wage careers, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has made it possible to create family-sustaining jobs and wealth creation and retention for generations to come.

With the adoption in 2015 of a Countywide Economic and Community Development Strategy—a watershed moment for the County—high-growth industry sectors that include Bioscience, Film and Digital Media, Health



Since 2019,
the Careers for a Cause
Job Training Program has
successfully recruited, trained
and hired two cohorts of
57 participants.
To date, nearly
50% of graduates
have been offered permanent,
full-time positions with
homeless service agencies
throughout Los Angeles
County.

Of the 71 participants
who enrolled in the Los
Angeles Emergency Medical
Technician program,
45 passed,
of whom **78%** received
employment offers
upon completion
of the program.

Since 2016,
51 County construction
projects have incorporated
a Local and Targeted
Worker Hire goal with 26 of
the 51 projects achieving or
**exceeding
the 30% goal**
for local workers.



10 program participants who graduated from the Los Angeles Emergency Medical Technician program were **offered positions** as Los Angeles County Fire Fighter Trainees after passing the Fire Fighter Trainee civil service exam.

- 3 participants have already **received their tower dates** and begun training;
- the remaining 7 are still waiting for the results of their LiveScan nexus assessment and their medical examination



Care Services, Construction and Manufacturing have put the region on an upward trajectory even in the face of economic headwinds. For instance, during the Great Recession, one of the few industries to see growth was the bioscience industry. Today, as a result of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' focus on growing this sector, Los Angeles County is one of the fastest growing regions for the life sciences. Not only is it transforming lives through improved medical outcomes but also creating family-supporting jobs at all skill levels. These efforts include the creation of a Bioscience Investment Fund to support startup companies; funding for a bioscience incubator at The Lundquist Institute in West Carson; funding for workforce training initiatives including Bio-Flex and BioFutures; approval of a 15-acre Biotech Park on the Harbor-UCLA Medical Campus; and establishment of a new nonprofit, BioscienceLA to promote investment in the sector throughout the Los Angeles County.





The BioLabs Incubator is a community for life science entrepreneurs. A place where startups can focus on their research in an environment with colleagues they can turn to. BioLabs removes the hassle of sourcing lab equipment, helps with concierge services and provides networking opportunities for companies.

GARY OLSEM
Director, BioLabs at The Lundquist Institute



Since 2015,
the bioscience sector has continued to grow reaching a milestone in 2019 with **research organizations** in the County receiving **more than \$1 billion** in funding from the National Institutes of Health, more than any other county in the state.

Since 2016,
the County has increased its support of **small businesses** with more than **\$1.5 billion** in procurement contracts Countywide going to local certified small businesses.

EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT





Despite the County’s growing commitment to equity and diversity, significant racial and ethnic disparities persist in education. Black, Indigenous, and Latinx students have consistently lagged behind their peers in meeting the State’s reading and math standards. Additionally, they are vastly overrepresented among children who experience hardships such as homelessness, poverty, and violence, leading to chronic school absences, more punitive forms of classroom discipline, and underrepresentation on college campuses. Through an agenda designed to bring forward a range of initiatives, programs, and policies that disrupt the school-to-prison pipeline, reduce educational, social and health disparities, and enhance services to the children and youth in the County’s care, the axis of progress has shifted. This bold, inclusive policy agenda stretches beyond the schoolhouse to ensure Los Angeles County’s children and youth succeed and thrive.



Since 2010, more than **3,600 young scholars** have benefitted from the community-based Freedom Schools intensive reading and summer enrichment program and more than 1,100 young scholars in the County’s probation camps have benefitted from the juvenile justice-based Freedom Schools.



Los Angeles Performance Partnership Pilot (LAP3)

Collaborated with city and County agencies to launch the Los Angeles Performance Partnership Pilot (LAP3), a large-scale experiment to dramatically improve the lives of opportunity youth

youth ages 16-24,

who are out of school and out of work. This collective effort provides opportunity youth a

second chance

to complete their high school education while also helping them find a job, obtain occupational training, and identify future employment opportunities.

Since implementation, more than

30,000 youth

have been served by the program and reconnected to education and employment services.



Essential to this vision is the implementation of innovative models and partnerships that eliminate educational barriers, close the achievement gap and promote equity for children and youth. In 2009, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas partnered with the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) to launch *Freedom Schools* in Los Angeles County. Rooted in the Mississippi Freedom Summer project of 1964, the CDF Freedom Schools model empowers youth to excel in reading, while making a difference in themselves, families and communities. Since 2010, more than 3,400 young scholars have benefitted from this intensive reading and summer enrichment program in the community-based model, and more than 1,100 in the Los Angeles County probation camps.

The SEED School of Los Angeles County is another innovative model advanced by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, in collaboration with Metro and the SEED Foundation, that not only bridges the opportunity gap for Second District youth, but also transforms the space and communities where youth and families reside. SEED LA will be the first public college-prep boarding

school authorized by the Los Angeles County Office of Education that will prepare youth from challenged backgrounds, from across the County for opportunities within the transportation, logistics, and infrastructure industries. SEED LA will expose students to a world without borders, which includes international travel opportunities to develop their leadership, purpose, and access in their community and abroad.

Additionally, disrupting cycles of poverty and violence in schools and communities does not happen without an integrated approach. To this end, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas launched the Community School Initiative that enhances school-based mental health services, supportive services, training and coordination across school districts throughout Los Angeles County. The Community School Initiative is currently underway at 15 high schools across Los Angeles County that serve as hubs for a range of support services for students and their families.

Mobilizing stakeholders across various sectors and levels of the public and private sectors to action in order to

The Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection was a much needed vehicle to promote review and make improvements to LA County's child protection system—improvements that include coordination and shared responsibility across the different LA County departments, to improve child safety, and to restore community engagement in child protection efforts. In short, the Commission called for the entire village to protect our children.

DR. CHERYL GRILLS
Psychologist and Professor of Psychology
Loyola Marymount University





better serve children and adolescents involved in the child welfare, juvenile justice, and/or homelessness systems, is a challenge in its own right. The Supervisor has led on the Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection, the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Integrated Leadership Team, and the 241.1 Dual Status Workgroups. These unprecedented partnerships improved outcomes for the Second District's most vulnerable children, youth and families. Through protest, legislative action, and funding, a new model of care was developed to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth that connected victims with trauma-informed, supportive services. In 2014, via a Supervisor Ridley-Thomas motion, the First Responder Protocol for CSEC was established, a first-of-its-kind protocol in the nation, and has since resulted in over 900 recoveries of young people from their exploiters.

This transformative approach serves as a model for law enforcement and government agencies throughout the nation.

Since 2011 I have been training professionals in LA County to better identify and serve commercially sexually exploited children and young adults. To date I have trained over 100,000 professionals here in LA County through in-person trainings and thousands more through an online CSEC 101 training video that County staff are required to take. Additionally since 2012 I have been part of the planning committee and the main onsite coordinator for the Annual Young Survivors Empowerment Conference.

NOLA K BRANTLEY
CEO, Nola Brantley Speaks



From August 1, 2014 to October 12, 2020, the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) First Responder Protocol made

926 recoveries
of children and youth who were commercially
sexually trafficked
within Los Angeles County.





2015- 2018 Capacity Building and Leadership Development Program

Co-sponsored four six-month Capacity Building and Leadership Development Programs in 2010, 2011, 2015, and 2018 for non-profit organizations in the Second District, in partnership with the California Community Foundation, the Empowerment Congress, and Community Partners. The program consisted of monthly trainings, coaching, peer learning and networking, and a culmination project.



Equity comes from the idea of moral equality. The idea that in the design of policy and programs, while we are all created equal, understanding the context of history that has contributed to a community's struggles is instrumental in building a future worthy of their courage and their ambitions. In the context of the American experience it means actively working to counteract policies that were put into place and led to centuries of unchecked structural discrimination.

In particular, African Americans consistently lag behind other racial and ethnic groups across several indices of social and economic wellbeing, including healthcare, education, public safety, employment, and housing. More recently, 2020 has brought to our doorstep the 'twindemic' of the deadly coronavirus and the exposure of long-standing structural racial and socioeconomic inequities. In a moment of reckoning that had been long building,



As of January 2020,
92% of permanent County employees and
84% of all County employees have
received training
in Implicit Bias and Cultural Competency.



To me, Implicit Bias means that despite our best intentions, prejudices can infect our decisions, and we can be completely oblivious to it. So Implicit Biases are one of the big reasons we have a perpetuation of institutional and systemic racism, sexism and other inequities in our society. And why we need anti-racist policies and practices. It is the reason why we need affirmative action, to counter the effects of implicit biases and systemic racism and inequity. But we can take steps to reduce our implicit biases and minimize their influence on our decisions. That is part of what anti-racist policies must do.

Cultural Competency is about realizing that to be culturally competent, it is not as much as having extensive knowledge about other cultures, as about having cultural humility: being humble about our own culture and recognizing that while we may have pride in our own, we must be respectful of different cultures. To go a step further, we must be careful not to allow pride in our own culture to mean it is necessarily superior to others, and to recognize that there is much to learn from other cultures' ways of seeing and doing things.

ROBIN TOMA
Executive Director, Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations
Assistant Director, WDACS

the murder of George Floyd awakened our nation's collective conscience to the life-threatening challenges Black communities face. The racialized violence African Americans endure at the hands of law enforcement has provoked a much larger conversation that has caused not only a reexamination of police accountability, but also a reexamination of the systemic and institutional inequities experienced by vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

During his time on the Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has actively committed to the work of advancing equity in order to meet the diverse needs of the County's constituencies. From spearheading innovative interventions such as his motions on implicit bias, cultural competency, or the first ever agenda for Los Angeles County on antiracism, he has created a foundation for the broad examination of inequitable policies and practices Countywide. Today, In-Home Support Services providers now have increased wages, and financial services for the unbanked youth exiting the County's foster care are greatly expanded. And the *Opportunity LA* Children's Savings Account Program as well as efforts to close the digital



divide among the County's students represent targeted efforts to bring forth greater equity. These are but a few examples.

Ultimately, equity does not exist in a vacuum. It must permeate the development of policy from its inception to its implementation and become embedded as a predominate concern. Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' work has challenged vested interests, spoke for people who are historically excluded and ignored systematically in making policy and in turn inspired the County to set the national standard and become a leader on dismantling racism, gender inequity, and other forms of structural discrimination. Such efforts will continue to be instrumental in finally addressing the many disparities among the County's diverse populations.





Researchers have found that subsidizing fresh produce would prevent

1.93 million

cardiovascular events such as heart attacks and 350,000 deaths.

What's more, subsidizing fruits and vegetables along with other healthy items would

prevent

3.28 million

cardiovascular conditions,

620,000

deaths

and 120,000 diabetes cases.

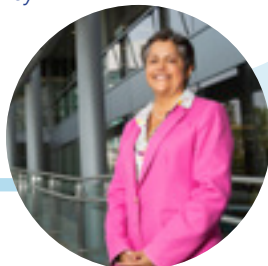
The health of a community can literally be measured through the quality and care offered at its healthcare facilities. We are better today, but progress requires an enduring commitment to equity, innovation and community.

When Supervisor Ridley-Thomas ran for office in 2008, he campaigned on a promise to change the paradigm of healthcare delivery in Willowbrook, where medical resources were few to non-existent. What existed was the Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital, a shell of its past prominence, and an institution plagued by poor medical care and staff errors such that it came to be viewed by many as a place of peril. In short, an institution no longer suited for the dignity of the community for which it hoped to serve.

Over a decade later, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital and the greater medical campus stands as one of the most incandescent chapters in Los Angeles County's health future. As a result of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' leadership, the hospital was reimagined and reopened in 2015 as a state-of-the-art private non-profit facility that has elevated the standards for healthcare delivery across the region. Within its first five years of operation, it has

It's a place where a resilient and dedicated staff strive to provide the full range of health and wellness services that they would want for themselves and their loved ones.

YOLANDA VERA
CEO
MLK Outpatient Center





received countless awards and honors including the Joint Commission Gold Seal of Approval, a nationally-recognized symbol of healthcare quality.

But healthcare is more than in-patient care. All aspects of a primary care, public health, and mental health system need to be invested in and brought together to meet the diverse needs of diverse communities.

Perhaps among his most notable efforts was the complete transformation of the entire Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Campus to provide far more than primary and in-patient services. The Medical Campus is now the site of numerous innovations. From piloting the first psychiatric urgent care center, recuperative care and sobering centers in Los Angeles County to developing the Mark Ridley-Thomas Behavioral Health Center, which is the first ever Behavioral Health Center in the State of California that will provide workforce training, peer support services, and more.

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has sharpened the County's healthcare efforts in a way that when we think about health, we think not just about healthcare but all the contributing factors that impact how we live. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Campus reflects the creation of a larger system to improve the lives and protect the health of residents—a system that extends well beyond medical care. And as a result, the health of a community thrives.

The services this Child and Family Wellbeing Center will provide is important and needed in that area. I spent my childhood in the Watts/Willowbrook community so I have some understanding of the needs of families in that area.

FLOYD STRICKLAND
Artist





Walk for Health & Back to School Event

(nine annual events) – focused on

community engagement

in impacted communities, particularly with youth, to provide safe space for wellness and wellbeing opportunities, fun and games, and each child with a backpack and school supplies.





The Family Medicine residency began in June 2018 with 8 residents and **grew to 24 residents** in 2020.

The Psychiatry residency also began in June 2018 with 4 residents and is expected to enroll **16 total residents** by 2021.

Care Harbor Health Clinic (eleven annual events) – providing healthcare worth over **\$21 million** to 3,000 participants each year over a three-day period and inviting County departments to engage and enroll hard-to-reach populations.





HOMELESSNESS



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. has said, “God never intended for one group of people to live in superfluous inordinate wealth, while others live in abject deadening poverty”. In a county as prosperous as Los Angeles, and a state as wealthy as California, homelessness is a moral crisis that will define this region’s civic legacy for future generations. Every night, in every corner of Los Angeles County, more than 66,000 individuals are without neither hearth nor home - compelling us to do more.

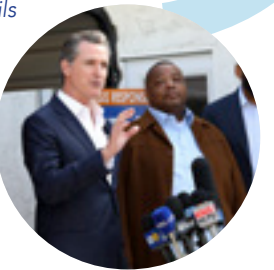
Confronting this growing crisis has not only been one of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ highest priorities, it has been his most enduring commitment.

After a deep examination of the challenges as well as a path forward to fight homelessness that culminated in August of 2015, the County declared homelessness to be a top priority and created the Homeless Initiative. Building on this move, the Board adopted Supervisor Ridley-Thomas’ motion to ensure that the \$100 million the Board dedicated to implement its 47-point action plan would be allocated equally based on geographic need, a precedent that remains to this day.

While \$100M had been one of the County’s largest financial commitments to end homelessness, it was insufficient to sustain the work in the years to come. As a result Supervisor Ridley-Thomas led on the ballot initiative to raise funds via a quarter-cent sales tax called Measure H. In March 2017, the first time since 1902 that a revenue measure had been placed on the ballot in an off-year election, Measure H passed. As a result, the County and its nonprofit partners have more than \$3.5 billion over ten years to improve the lives of individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

It’s time we stop talking about the homelessness crisis and start acting. This is a crisis that affects all of California – from rural and urban communities to coastal and inland cities. We need to work collectively to source local solutions from mayors, county supervisors and city councils and implement those solutions at scale statewide.

GOVERNOR NEWSOM





Together with nonprofit service providers and other partners, the use of evidence-based practices has been accelerated, street-based outreach and engagement teams have been expanded, new safe interim housing and a full spectrum of supportive services coupled with a portfolio of affordable housing have been created. As a result of these new practices, since 2019, the service providers housed more than 22,000 people.

But despite these great strides, there was still an increase in the homeless population. The force of poverty and the realities of the housing and employment markets are such that for every 207 individuals that exited homelessness every day in 2019, another 227 became homeless - every day.

Through his role as co-chair of Governor Newsom's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors, the County has also taken on innovative projects. In February of 2020, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas worked with the State to repurpose 20 travel trailers and create two separate interim housing sites for homeless families with young children. As the coronavirus pandemic took hold, the County worked rapidly with multiple partners to repurpose almost 40 empty hotels in less than four months, and bring indoors more than 5,000 homeless seniors and vulnerable adults with underlying health conditions. Subsequently, in collaboration with the State, the County is purchasing 10 motels which will provide 850 units of interim and permanent housing. The County is simultaneously working with its partners to rehouse all the residents who have been brought indoors in response to the pandemic.

The past decade of leadership on this issue by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has shown that addressing homelessness is within our power. And we must not avert our eyes from the people who sleep where we walk, and never live with the fact that some of our fellow Americans will be consigned to a life in the streets.

It is the most basic test of our civic responsibility.



Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has shown that addressing homelessness is within our power. And we must not avert our eyes from the people who sleep where we walk, and never live with the fact that some of our fellow Americans will be consigned to a life in the streets.



JUSTICE REFORM



For many years, Los Angeles County has sought to reimagine its criminal justice system. It has been a system that has allowed law enforcement-involved violence against black and brown bodies to remain unchecked while failing at its basic mission of public safety and rehabilitation of justice-involved individuals. As a complex and sprawling system it has been resistant to change and frequently refuses to heed the calls for community policing and rehabilitation. However, as a champion of reform, and enhancing accountability and transparency, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has distinguished himself by bringing to life the beginnings of a system that promotes community wellbeing and alternatives to law enforcement interventions.



Body-worn cameras

rolled out at five Sheriff's stations, with ten additional stations to receive cameras in the next phase.

In 2011, after investigations detailing the troubling incidents of jail violence and corruption within the County Sheriff's Department, the need for improved oversight became clear. By advocating for the creation of the Citizens' Commission on Jail Violence to investigate the depth of inappropriate deputy use of force incidents in County jails and restore public confidence in our jails, we saw what has been the hallmark of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' efforts around justice reform.

From authoring several Board-approved motions to create the Office of Inspector General, to exploring strategies for engaging County residents in the oversight of their Sheriff's Department, which led to the creation of the Civilian Oversight Commission—as well as creating a Probation Oversight Commission—civilian oversight now looms large. And it has proven to be a fundamental component of the County's appreciable law enforcement reform efforts.

Bringing to life a "Care First, Jails Last" vision to improve the County's criminal justice system meant using strategies

At a moment of mass uprisings demanding racial justice in law enforcement and an end to structural racism in the criminal justice system, the County's community engagement process that led to Probation oversight is both a model of good governance and a beacon of hope. The faith that the Board put in the community's capacity to dialogue; to hear perspectives both from directly impacted people served by Probation and the staff who work in the Department, tax payers and advocates. This has yielded a unique model for oversight that combines robust powers with meaningful community engagement. It has helped restore community confidence in our broader effort to ensure our Justice Systems are equitable and effective.

SAÚL SARABIA
Social Justice Educator and Organizer
UCLA and Solidarity Consulting





5,924

individuals released
from jail and into
Office of Diversion
and Re-entry
community services

responsive to the needs of justice-involved individuals. Meeting these needs has meant employing the use of alternatives to incarceration, which included developing an Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR) to divert those suffering from mental illness and substance abuse issues away from incarceration, the integration of arts-based strategies to promote healing, and a first of its kind Behavioral Health Center that empowers the community.

As a manifestation of the power of strong leadership and cross collaboration, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas partnered with ODR, the Probation Department, and a range of other County and community stakeholders to create and open “Developing Opportunities Offering Reentry Solutions” (DOORS)—the first-of-its-kind reentry center in Los Angeles County, located in the Second District. DOORS provides a one-stop-shop of supportive services for Probation Department clients and other justice-involved individuals.

The seeds of reform have been sown. Today, through enhanced law enforcement accountability and transparency, civilian oversight, and alternatives to incarceration, the fruits of community empowerment and healing are starting to bloom.



2018 Free the Vote (Unlock the Vote)

On September 25, 2018, created a voter engagement task force to register justice-involved individuals to vote and engage them in the electoral process.



1,960

of justice-involved
individuals
were registered
to vote in the
November 2018
election.

COVID-19 RESPONSE





In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic created a health and economic crisis of enormous scale and human impact. In its wake, businesses and non-essential services have sustained significant financial damage. The same social and economic determinants that have driven health disparities for generations – such as access to food, housing, education and health services – have exacerbated inequitable access to prevention, testing, and treatment resources for COVID-19 for Second District communities.

At the start of this pandemic, demographic data on COVID-19's impact on communities of color was not collected. Nor was a full accounting conducted of COVID-19 and its disproportionate effect on South Los Angeles communities. Recognizing the uneven nature of the virus' impact, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas partnered with public, private and philanthropic partners to deliver services in an equitable and thoughtful manner.

Working with the Public Health, Health Services, and Fire Departments to provide testing and treatment in medically underserved areas, and St. John's Well Child and Family Center to dispatch a mobile testing unit to churches, grocery



stores, community organizations, skilled nursing facilities, and other locations, resources were distributed to areas of critical need. Over the course of the pandemic, more than 180,000 masks were donated to essential workers – most of which Supervisor Ridley-Thomas delivered personally to healthcare workers, firefighters, grocery store clerks, public defenders, and street outreach teams helping the homeless.

Additionally, one of the most active testing locations in Los Angeles County was through a partnership with the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science, which at Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' direction, also allowed for the collection and sharing of race and ethnicity data during testing - enabling Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science to publish an analysis on equity in the midst of the pandemic.

In the early phases of the pandemic, staff and residents of skilled nursing facilities were particularly vulnerable and accounted for almost half of the COVID-19 death toll. This prompted Supervisor Ridley-Thomas to direct the Inspector General and Auditor-Controller to investigate, and this work will result in recommendations for long-term improvements.

I am a sole practitioner with a staff of two. I practice in probate court. The Court closures due to the pandemic have stretched us really thin because most of my income is derived from fees that are subject to court approval. Our client base is mostly lower and middle income and mostly African American. We have worked very hard to establish ourselves in the community as a law firm of integrity that delivers exceptional service. The COVID Recovery Loan Program has brought us closer to our goal of making it through this year by providing funds to pay the office and equipment leases and payroll for my staff. This recent loan has kept our doors open.

L'TANYA M. BUTLER
Lawyer
L'tanya M Bulter Law Offices





In addition, he also authored separate motions to improve safety protocols for essential workers and to create the Office of Labor Equity. He also co-authored a motion to create Public Health Councils and strengthen the anti-retaliatory ordinances, all of which seek to provide long-term workplace protections. Businesses, meanwhile, received County-directed funding assistance during the pandemic.

To address the increased vulnerability of persons experiencing homelessness, the County partnered with the State on Project Roomkey, which helped 5,000 homeless people get off the streets and temporarily move into 40 hotels and motels throughout the County over a span of just four months – an unprecedented accomplishment. In the next phase, Project Homekey, the County will permanently acquire at least 10 of those hotels and motels, including three in the Second District, so that each can be converted into permanent housing.

Many aspects of the emergency response to COVID-19 are expected to lay the groundwork for lasting reform. While the tragedy and turmoil wrought by the pandemic cannot be overstated, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has worked tirelessly to help Los Angeles County not only recover but emerge stronger and more resilient.

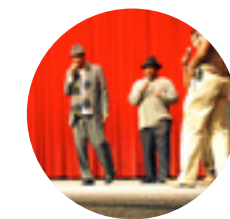




MILESTONES AT A GLANCE



MILESTONES AT A GLANCE



Arts and Culture

Sponsorship of Film Screenings and Theatre Productions

Sponsored productions of professional plays and films, hosting more than 15,000 audience members, including youth and seniors, with a range of themes and topics.
2008-2020

Health

Promoting Community Health and Wellness Initiative

Care Harbor Health Clinic; (11 annual events) provided healthcare valued at over \$21 million to 3,000 participants each year over a three-day period and invited County departments to engage and enroll hard-to-reach individuals.
2009-2020



Equity

Capacity Building and Leadership

Co-sponsored Capacity Building and Leadership Development Programs.
2010, 2011, 2015, and 2018

Equity

Rescind Prior Action by the Board of Supervisors which Supported the Internment of Japanese Americans

Rescinded the Board of Supervisors' January 27, 1942 Resolution that supported Executive Order 9066 which implemented the forcible evacuation of Americans of Japanese ancestry and involuntary relocation to remote locked facilities.
June 6, 2012



Education and Youth Development

Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection

Established the Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection.
June 18, 2013



Health

MLK Medical Campus Investment

New Multi-Service Ambulatory Care Center (MLK Outpatient Center) opened.
May 2014 Ribbon Cutting

Transforming Communities

Crenshaw/LAX Line

Led the development of the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project.
2014 Groundbreaking

Expected opening in 2021



Economic Development

Harbor-UCLA Medical Campus Biotech Park

Led the approval of the Harbor-UCLA Medical Campus Biotech Park.
April 2015



Homelessness

Declared homelessness as one of Los Angeles County's top priorities.
August 17, 2015

Education and Youth Development

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth

Created the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Youth Integrated Leadership Team.
June 30, 2015



Health

MLK Medical Campus Investment

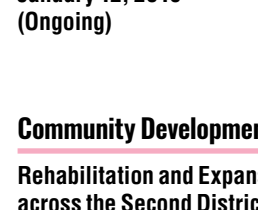
MLK Community Hospital opened.
August 2015 Ribbon Cutting



Economic Development

Business Assistance

Increased the County's procurement of goods and services from Local Small Businesses, Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses, and Social Enterprises.
January 12, 2016 (Ongoing)



Community Development

Rehabilitation and Expansion of Metro Facilities across the Second District

- Renovated the Willowbrook/Rosa Parks Station.
 - Completed design of the Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor Project, which will connect the Crenshaw/LAX Line to the Silver and Blue Lines and create a 6.6 mile bike and walking path. The project is expected to go out for bid for construction in early 2021.
 - Championed reinvestment in the Blue Line, resulting in a \$600M renovation.
- 2016-2020**

2016

Education and Youth Development

Los Angeles Performance Partnership Pilot (LAP3)

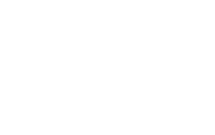
Launched the Los Angeles Performance Partnership Pilot, a large-scale experiment to dramatically improve the lives of opportunity youth ages 16-24, who are out of school and out of work. Since implementation, more than 30,000 youth have been served by the program and reconnected to education and employment services.
2016



Arts and Culture

Lucas Museum

Exposition Park declared the new home for the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art.
November 9, 2016



Homelessness

Measure H

Measure H passes with a vote of 69.34%.
March 2017



Equity

Implicit Bias, Cultural Competency & the Countywide Equity Framework

Directed the requirement of Implicit Bias and Cultural Competency training for all County employees. Two Countywide Equity Summits were held on January 18, 2018 and May 30, 2019, and an Equity plan was submitted to the Board, with contributions from all departments. A January 21, 2020 motion directed the creation of a centralized Equity Initiative.
April 18, 2017 and January 21, 2020



Transforming Communities

Catalytic Development Fund

Established the Catalytic Development Fund for redevelopment of underutilized public properties for mixed use or affordable housing.
April 18, 2017

Economic Development

LA EMT Pilot

Sponsored three-cohorts of the L.A. Emergency Medical Technician pilot.
Launched May 2017



Justice Reform

Youth Diversion

Launched a new office on youth diversion and development.
November 7, 2017

Community Development

Ordinance

Created the SAAFE Ordinance, which updated alcohol sales regulations while promoting the sale of healthy food at retail stores that sell alcohol throughout unincorporated Los Angeles County.
September 2017



Equity

Establishment of the DPH Center for Health Equity

Launched the Department of Public Health Center for Health Equity and the Healing and Trauma Prevention Center.
November 2017



Economic Development

Bio-Flex Job Training Program

Established the Bio-Flex Job Training Program.
2018

Arts and Culture

Bringing LACMA to Magic Johnson Park

Approved a Los Angeles County Art Museum of Art satellite location to be sited at the Magic Johnson Park.
2018



Justice Reform

Free the Vote (Unlock the Vote)

1,960 of justice-involved individuals were registered to vote for the November 2018 election.
2018



Transforming Communities

Vermont/Manchester

Began development of 180 units of affordable housing, approximately 60,000 sq. ft of retail, a plaza, Metro job training center and parking lot.
Acquisition 2018 Groundbreaking 2020

Health

Improving Public Health through the Tobacco Ordinance

Updated LA County's tobacco regulations.
September 2018

Economic Development

Bioscience LA County

Led the creation of Bioscience LA County.
November 2018

Justice Reform

Office of Diversion and Reentry

Expanded diversion for all inmates with serious clinical needs.
August 14, 2018

Community Development

Sativa Water District

Championed the dissolution of the Sativa Water Company.
October 2018

Justice Reform

Free the Vote (Unlock the Vote)

Created a voter engagement task force to register justice-involved individuals to vote and engage them in the electoral process.
September 25, 2018

Arts and Culture

Established the Department of Arts and Culture.
May 2018

Education and Youth Development

Children's Savings Accounts

Led the County's partnership with the City of Los Angeles and LAUSD on the OpportunityLA Children's Savings Account program.
August 14, 2018



Education and Youth Development

Community Schools Initiative

Implemented the Community Schools Initiative.
January 15, 2019

Economic Development

Business Assistance

Led the Board of Supervisors' adoption of the 25% procurement goal for certified Local Small Businesses and 3% for Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses.
March 5, 2019 (Ongoing)



Arts and Culture

"Amazing Grace" Screening

Aretha Franklin "Amazing Grace" film screened at the New Temple Missionary Baptist Church, where the album and film were originally recorded in 1972.
March 31, 2019



Justice Reform

Developing Opportunities Offering Reentry Solutions

Opened the Los Angeles County Developing Opportunities Offering Reentry Solutions (DOORS).
June 28, 2019

Health

MLK Medical Campus Investment

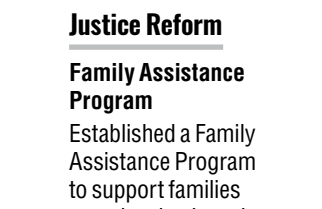
Child Care Center opened.
2019



Justice Reform

Probation Oversight Commission

Created the Probation Oversight Commission.
October 2019



Economic Development

Lundquist Institute Medical Research Lab

Completed construction of the Lundquist Institute Medical Research Lab.
March 2019

Homelessness

Co-Chair of Governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors and Comprehensive Crisis Response Strategies

Appointed by Governor Newsom to co-chair the Governor's Council of Regional Homeless Advisors.
May 2019

Justice Reform

Body-Worn Cameras

Directed the launch of a body-worn camera program for Los Angeles County
June 24, 2019

Transforming Communities

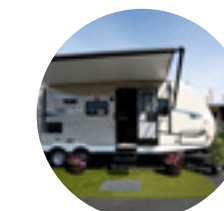
Carol Kimmelman Athletic and Academic Campus

Led the development of the Carol Kimmelman Athletic and Academic Campus.
Lease approved by the Board in July 2019

Economic Development

Careers for a Cause

Piloted the Careers for a Cause pre-employment training program for formerly homeless individuals.
October 2019



Homelessness

Securing Emergency Trailers from the State and Creating Safe Landing for Families

Secured 20 emergency trailers and provided a Safe Landing for Homeless Families.
January 21, 2020



Transforming Communities

MLK Medical Office Building opens on the MLK Medical Campus.
Completed 2020

Community Development

Park to Playa

Completed the Park to Playa trail, the first regional trail in the Second District.
October 2020

Health

MLK Medical Campus Investment

Children and Family Wellbeing Center under construction.
Target Completion 2020



Justice Reform

Civilian Oversight Commission

Led the Board's granting the Civilian Oversight Commission subpoena power.
January 2020

Equity

Antiracism, Diversity & Inclusion Initiative

Established an antiracist policy agenda for Los Angeles County.
July 21, 2020

Education and Youth Development

SEED School of Los Angeles County

Established the SEED School of Los Angeles County - the first public boarding school in the State of California.
July 2020



Community Development

Magic Johnson Park

Renovation of Magic Johnson Park.
October 2020



Health

MLK Medical Campus Investment

Mark Ridley-Thomas Behavioral Health Center opened.
October 2020 Ribbon Cutting

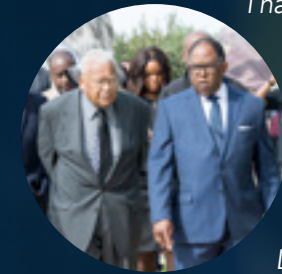


2008

2020



Shortly after being elected to the Los Angeles City Council in 1991, Mark Ridley-Thomas founded the nonprofit Empowerment Congress in response to the civil unrest. It's goal was to promote civic engagement by uniting residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations, neighborhood groups, religious institutions and community leaders. The journey continues...



I have known Mark Ridley-Thomas for nearly fifty years. I have witnessed and supported his growth, and development over that time—from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, to the City Council, to the State Legislature and then to the Board of Supervisors. Each step of the way he prepared himself for service and action, for discipleship and leadership. Unlike most others in politics, Mark's unique training and preparation in social ethics has made the difference in his tenure in fulfilling his calling. I have paid very close attention for the past five decades of my ministry in Los Angeles and I can think of no one who has more consistently answered the call to confront "principalities and powers" in the name of peace and justice here on earth.

—REVEREND JAMES M. LAWSON
Pastor Emeritus, Holman United Methodist Church

I am deeply grateful for my longtime friendship and collaboration with Mark Ridley Thomas to ensure that no child is left behind. No one has been more effective in working on behalf of children and young people in California. Mark has always done his very best to provide innovative ideas and effective implementation strategies to ensure children are prepared for success in life and he believes deeply that every child, no matter who they are or what they look like or where they grow up, deserves an equal chance to reach their full potential. He has made a huge difference for the children and families in Los Angeles County and in our nation and I am so grateful for all he has done in supporting the Children's Defense Fund's efforts and so many other organizations to ensure that no child is left behind in California or anywhere in our nation.



—MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN
Founder, Children's Defense Fund

